Imposition of Conditions on import of Indian Basmati Rice

4353. JUSTICE GUMANMAL LODHA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S.A. has recently imposed certain new conditions on the import of Basmati rice from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its likely impact on India's basmati rice export to European countries;

(c) whether the Government have lodged its protest in World Trade Organisation against these conditions;

(d) if so, the reaction of WTO an action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Seizure of Narcotics in Maharashtra

4354. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of narcotics seized in Maharashtra during each of the last three years;

(b) the number or persons arrested and punished so far and the reasons for delay in finalising their cases;

(c) whether some foreigner are also among them; and

(d) if so, the country-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) As per information available, details of narcotic drugs seized in the State of Maharashtra during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 are given as under :-

Drugs	Quantity of Drugs in Kg		
	1994	1995	1996
Opium	5.000	73.000	665.000
Heroin	194.000	116.000	115.000
Ganja	8487.000	5770.000	1876.000
Hashish	168.000	127.000	421.000
Methaqualone	721.000	3592.000	490.000

(b) As per information available, details of the number of persons arrested and convicted for drug trafficking in Maharashtra during 1994, 1995 and 1996 are given below :

	1994	1995	1996
No. of persons arrested	694	622	766
No. of persons convicted	42	39	86

The main reason for delay in finalising the cases in the huge pendency before the criminal courts which are competent to try the cases booked under the NDPS Act.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Statement showing the number of nationality-wise foreigners arrested for drug trafficking in Maharashtra is given in the attached Statement.

Statement

Statement Showing the Number of Foreign Nationals Arrested in Maharashtra during the Years 1994, 1995 & 1996.

S.No.	Nationality of Persons Arrested	Number of Arrested Persons		
		1994	1995	1996
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Australian	1	1	–
2.	Belglum	–	1	–
3.	British	1	–	–
4.	Bulgarian	1	–	–
5.	Burundi	2	2	–
6.	Candian	1	3	–
7.	French	2	–	–
8.	German	–	1	1
9.	Ghanian	2	2	3
10.	Iranian	4	4	1
11.	Italy	–	–	1
12.	Kenya	6	5	1
13.	Mauritius	3	3	1
14.	Nepalese	3	–	–
15.	Nigerian	5	4	15
16.	Pakistani	–	–	2
17.	Polish	1	1	–